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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Identical letters dated 17 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a document prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding violations by the Russian Federation of the six-point Ceasefire Agreement of 12 August 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 17 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Since the military aggression committed by the Russian Federation in August 2008 and subsequent occupation of Georgia's territories, Russian occupational forces exercise effective control over Abkhazia, Georgia, and the Tskhinvali region, Georgia.

Throughout this period, Russia remains in grave violation of the fundamental principles and norms of international law, as well as of its multilateral and bilateral international obligations.

Russia remains in severe breach of every provision of the Ceasefire Agreement signed on 12 August 2008.

On 7 June 2009 15 members of the crime gangs controlled by the Tskhinvali proxy regime and Russian occupants intruded into Perevi village in two armoured vehicles. Cases of robbery and burglary, including cattle theft, have continually been reported from the village of Perevi.

On 8 June, the Kharchilavas family was attacked in Gali district by Russian occupants and representatives of the Sokhumi proxy regime. Two women and two children were kidnapped and threatened with death unless the father of the children appears at a militia station in Ochamchire.

On 16 June Russia's President Medvedev instructed relevant Russian authorities to conclude treaties with the Tskhinvali and Sokhumi proxy regimes in the military cooperation field.

On 15 June 2009 Russia vetoed the continuation of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) at the session of the Security Council dedicated to the "Situation in Georgia". By ceasing the Observer Mission to Georgia, Russia continued the policy started in OSCE, aimed at disposing of the international presence in Georgia. By ending UNOMIG Russia removed the international community's final instruments designed for maintaining peace and stability in Abkhazia, Georgia, and improving the livelihood of the local population, living in constant danger, whose fundamental rights and freedoms are constantly violated. In the absence of international missions security conditions in the occupied territories depend solely on the Russian occupational forces and their proxy militias, responsible for many incidents of ethnic cleansing and atrocities.

The third meeting on the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism, scheduled for 23 June 2009, along with the co-chairs, the European Union and OSCE, to be attended by representatives of the Russian occupational troops and the Tskhinvali proxy regime, was cancelled due to the rigid position of the Tskhinvali proxy regime and the Russia occupational troops. The rescheduling of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism for an indefinite period is viewed as yet another destructive action that has continued to take place for the last few months. Russia's policy aims at downgrading the importance of the Geneva discussions.

The whole responsibility for the thwarting of the Incident Prevention Mechanism rests with Russia, which as an occupying power exercises an effective control over Georgia's inalienable parts — Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region.

On 21 June an ambulance vehicle accompanying the European Union Monitoring Mission carrying out a routine patrol exploded on a mine near the village of Muzhava, in the vicinity of the Abkhazian administrative border. The blast left Avtandil Akhaladze, a driver of the ambulance, dead and Gega Petiashvili, a doctor, severely injured.

On 22 June mortar fire was opened from the Russian occupied territory in the direction of the checkpoint of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia located in the village of Muzhava. The same day a 500-kV high-voltage transmission line, "Kavkasioni", was exploded on the territory of the Muzhava village.